

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT UR

SUBJ: U.S. ROCK OPERA HITS MOSCOW

1. EMBASSY RARELY HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPORT EVENTS INDICATING MORE TOLERANT ATTITUDES ON PART OF SOVIET CULTURAL AUTHORITIES TOWARD NON-TRADITIONAL ART FORMS. THUS THIS CABLE ONGAY 20 CONCERT BY TWELVE-MAN SOVIET JAZZ-ROCK BAND HEADED BY ALEKSEY KOZLOV, BEFORE ABOUT 700 SPECTATORS AT MOSCOW'S HOUSE OF SCIENTISTS. ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCE INCLUDED SCIENTISTS, ARTISTS, WRITERS, YOUNG PEOPLE (MANY OF WHO WERE APPARENTLY CHILDREN OF SCIENTIST/MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTION AND OTHER INTELLECTUALS), FAMOUS ATHLETES, AND OTHERS, INCLUDING SOME RARELY SEEN SOVIET "HIPPIES," WHO HAD EITHER WANGLED INVITATIONS OR CRASHED THE GATE. INVITEES AND HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE TRYING TO TALK THEIR WAY INTO HALL CLEARLY CONSIDERED KOZLOV BAND'S APPEARANCE A MAJOR EVENT.

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2. SECOND HALF OF PROGRAM WAS ENTIRELY DEVOTED TO KOZ-

LOV'S VERSION OF "JESUS CHRIST SUPER STAR," SUNG IN
NEAR PERFECT ENGLISH.

3. CONCERT WAS NOT PUBLICIZED, AND EMBOFFF PRESENT WAS
TOLD BY LOCAL JAZZ EXPERT THAT OPPORTUNITY WAS GIVEN TO
KOZLOV TO PERFORM WHEN CELEBRATION OF 250TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES WAS CANCELLED AND HALL BECAME FREE.
NEVERTHELESS, SELECT SEGMENT OF MOSCOW SOCIETY KNOW OF
PERFORMANCE, WORD APPARENTLY SPREAD QUICKLY, AND MANY
MORE ROCK FANS THAN HALL COULD HOLD WERE ANXIOUS TO
ATTEND.
STOESSEL

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